General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 170

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.8 and Add.1)*]

55/3. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law on the European continent, including its activities against racism and intolerance, the promotion of gender equality, social development and a common cultural heritage,

Acknowledging also that, with its significant expertise in the field of human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, the Council of Europe is also promoting the prevention of conflict and long-term post-conflict peace-building through political and institutional reform,

Stressing the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe and its contribution to the solution of conflicts throughout the whole of Europe,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Council of Europe, both at the level of headquarters and in the field;

2. *Welcomes* the increasingly close cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

3. *Welcomes also* the close and fruitful cooperation between the Council of Europe and the International Law Commission of the United Nations, and the contribution of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Decade of International Law;

4. *Welcomes further* the contributions of the Council of Europe to the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly entitled,

respectively, "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", which was held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2000, and "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", which was held in Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Council of Europe for its organization of the European Conference against Racism, which was held in Strasbourg, France, from 11 to 13 October 2000, in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which will be held in Durban, South Africa, in 2001;

6. *Welcomes* the participation of the Council of Europe in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, in its cooperation with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, notably with regard to the reform of the judiciary, the protection of minorities, property rights, registration and local democracy, as well as the observation of the electoral process in Kosovo, as requested by the United Nations;

7. *Welcomes also* the readiness of the Council of Europe to continue to fulfil the role assigned to it, under the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,[1] with regard to the protection and promotion of human rights as well as in the field of judicial reform;

8. *Welcomes further* the major contribution of the Council of Europe to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, launched at the initiative of the European Union, and to the development of regional projects to support its aims;

9. *Welcomes* the active role of the Council of Europe in the tripartite meetings between the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring, with the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

38th plenary meeting
20 October 2000

[1] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.